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STATEMENT TO BE USED IN COTTON TRADE JOURNAL

South Carolina's past industrial economy has been largely dominated by the textile industry, and its future industrial hopes lie to a great extent in the same field. More than ever we are depending upon our textile mills and we are already expanding rapidly in our facilities for finishing the goods and turning them into garments and other textile products.

C For years our greatest weakness in the textile industry was the fact that we made the greige goods and shipped them away to be bleached and dyed and made into finished products. We now have a number of large finishing plants and others are being built and proposed. It is encouraging also to know that during the past 5 years approximately 100 garment factories have been located in this State. We anticipate even further progress in the garment industry.

P At the present time the textile industry provides approximately 70 % of the State's industrial payrolls and employs approximately 60 % of all the industrial workers in the State. There are about 125,000 men and women engaged in the industry at this time, and the mills are adding to their employment rapidly.

Y Some years back there were some things in the textile industry of which we were not proud, but we feel those days are gone as we now have a most progressive situation and a fine outlook. The wages of workers have been more than doubled within the last six years, and we are informed that working conditions here compare favorably with those anywhere else.

The fact that there has been an almost total absence of strikes and other serious labor disorders is a good testimonial to the healthy conditions which prevail.

South Carolina ranks second only to North Carolina in textile production. I confidently predict that the future is going to bring continued expansion and better conditions than we have at present. Most of the mills and mill communities are modern and progressive. Education has done much to improve conditions, and on the whole we have healthy and happy working people in the textile areas.